UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/490,448	01/24/2000	Atsushi Nakamura	862.C1795	7161

5514   7590   06/23/2005

FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER
HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2112	

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/490,448	NAKAMURA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kim T. Huynh	2112	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 April 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is FINAL.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-11, 18, 19, 21, 22, 42, 44, 45 and 47* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-11, 18, 19, 21, 22, 42, 44, 45 and 47* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *24 January 2000* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
> another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent
> granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the
> applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section
> 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States
> only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2)
> of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-11, 18-19, 21-22, 42, 44-45, 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as

being anticipated by Tokkahei (Japan Patent 9-282263)

As per claim 1, Tokkahei discloses an information processing apparatus

comprising:

- Communication controller configured to receive a read command from an

    external device, the read command specifying a memory address where

    data to be read out are stored; and [0010]

- Memory means for storing information about a device, that is mountable

    on said information processing apparatus but is not mounted on said

    information processing apparatus, in a memory area, from which the

    external device can read out said information about a device by using the

    read command, ([0014], wherein the device information about the device

    have stored in the predetermined read only memory which can be read

out from the external device but the device physically has not mounted on

information processing until device takes control of bus)

- Wherein the device that is mountable on said information processing

  apparatus but is not mounted on said information processing apparatus,

  includes an attachable part through which that device is attached to said

  information processing apparatus, (paragraph [0014] ie the information

  about the device stored in memory but physically the device has not

  mounted on information processing apparatus when a device takes control

  of bus means the device will be mounted(attached)) and a function assist

  part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus.

  .([0015], [0009] ([0014], ie, the devices, such as video tape recorder or

  camera video tape recorder each of these device has a different function

  assist part for assisting information processing apparatus(PC))

As per claim 2, Tokkahei discloses the apparatus further comprising a transmitter

configured to transmit information in the memory area in accordance with the

read command from the external device.[0010]

As per claim 3, Tokkahei discloses wherein said communication controller

comprises a communication control bus complying with an IEEE-1394 standard.

[0018]

As per claim 4, Tokkahei discloses wherein the memory area is set in a

configuration ROM defined by the IEEE-1394 standard. [0018-0019]

As per claim 5, Tokkahei discloses wherein position information unique to an electronic device is written in a node dependent information directory of the configuration ROM.[0019]

As per claim 6, Tokkahei discloses wherein the memory area is specified based upon information held in an Instance Directory of the configuration ROM. ([0012], wherein table id implies directory)

As per claim 7, Tokkahei discloses wherein said memory means stores, in the memory area, information indicative of a device that is mountable on said information processing apparatus but is not mounted on said information processing apparatus and a device that is mountable on said information processing apparatus and has already been mounted on said information processing apparatus. ([0021-0025], wherein device communicate/not communicate implies mountable/not mountable)

As per claims 8, 19, Tokkahei discloses an information processing apparatus comprising:

- Communication controller configured to send a read command to an external device, the read command specifying a memory address where data to be read out are stored;[0010]

- An acquisition unit configured to acquire information about a device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on said external device, from a memory area of the external device, by using the read command; and [0014]

- A display control unit configured to control a display based upon the information acquired by said acquisition unit,[0009-0011]

- Wherein the device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on said external device includes an attachable part through which that device is attached to the external device, and a function assisting a function of the external device. [0009] ([0014], wherein when a device take control of bus means not actually mounted but the device information already have stored in the memory will be mounted when take the bus control)

As per claim 9, Tokkahei discloses wherein said communication control unit comprises a communication control bus complying with an IEEE-1394 standard.[0018]

As per claim 10, Tokkahei discloses wherein said acquisition means accesses an Instance Directory stored in a configuration ROM defined by the IEEE-1394 standard to acquire information about the device that is mountable on the external device. [0007-0008]

As per claim 11, Tokkahei discloses wherein said acquisition unit acquires information indicative of a device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on the external device and a device that is mountable on the external device and has already been mounted on the external device, and said display control unit identifiably displays the device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on the external device and the device that is

mountable on the external device and has already been mounted on the external

device based on the information acquired by said acquisition unit. [0009-0011],

[0014-0015]

As per claims 18, 21-22, Tokkahei discloses a method of controlling an

information processing apparatus, comprising:

- A storage step, of storing information about a device that is mountable on

  the information processing apparatus but Is not mounted on the

  information processing apparatus, in a memory area that is accessible by

  an external device by using a read command that specifies a memory

  address where the information about a device to be read out is stored; (

  [0014], wherein when a device take control of bus means not actually

  mounted but the device information already have stored in the memory will

  be mounted when take the bus control)

- A communication control step, of receiving a read command from the

  external device; and [0010]

- A transmission step, of transmitting the information about the device that

  is mountable on the information processing apparatus but is not mounted

  on the information processing apparatus, held in the memory area, in

  accordance with the read command from the external device, [0010] (

  [0014], wherein when a device take control of bus means not actually

  mounted but the device information already have stored in the memory will

  be mounted when take the bus control)

- Wherein the device that is mountable on the information processing apparatus but is not mounted on the information processing apparatus, includes an attachable part through which the device attached to the information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of the information processing apparatus. [0009], [0015] ([0014], wherein when a device take control of bus means not actually mounted but the device information already have stored in the memory will be mounted when take the bus control)

As per claim 42, Tokkahei discloses an information processing apparatus comprising:

- A memory configured to store information about a device that is mountable on said information processing apparatus but is not mounted on said information processing apparatus; and [0014]

- A communication unit configured to send the stored information to an external device.[0010]

- Wherein the device that is mountable on said information processing apparatus bus is not mounted on said information processing apparatus, includes an attachable part through which that device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. [0009], [0015] ([0014], wherein when a device take control of bus means not actually attached

but the device information already have stored in the memory will be attached when take the bus control)

As per claim 44, Tokkahei wherein the memory stores information about a device which is mountable on said information processing apparatus and has already been mounted on said information processing apparatus. [0009-0011], [0014-0015]

As per claim 45, Tokkahei discloses a method of controlling an information processing apparatus for communicating with an external device, said method comprising:

- An acquisition step, of acquiring, from the external device, information about a device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on the external device; and [0009-0011], [0014-0015]

- A display control step, of controlling a display based upon the information acquired in said acquisition step.[0009-0011]

- Wherein the device that is mountable on said information processing apparatus bus is not mounted on said information processing apparatus, includes an attachable part through which that device is attached to said information processing apparatus, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said information processing apparatus. [0009], [0015] ([0014], wherein when a device take control of bus means not actually attached but the device information already have stored in the memory will be attached when take the bus control)

As per claim 47, Tokkahei discloses wherein said acquisition step includes acquiring information indicative of the device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on the external device and a device that is mountable on the external device and has already been mounted on the external device, and said display control step includes identifiably displaying the device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on the external device and the device that is mountable on the external device and has already been mounted on the external device based on the information acquired in said acquisition step. [0009-0011], [0014-0015]

Response to Amendment

3.   Applicant's amendment filed on 4/12/05 have been fully considered but does not place the application in condition for allowance.

a. In response to applicant's argument that Tokkahei discloses connecting a node for a CAM or VTR to a PC. The CAM or VTR, however, are connected to the PC but are not "mountable on the information processing apparatus(PC) but are not mounted on the information processing apparatus. Examiner respectfully disagrees. In Tokkahei's system a PC inquires of the other devices of system about node unique Ids and creates a correspondence table of node Ids and node unique Ids based on the response to the inquiries. This table stored information about the device which stored (mountabled) on information processing apparatus but not physically mounted(attached) on information processing apparatus when a device take control of bus which means

the device physically mountabled(attached) on information processing apparatus. For

example the CAM or VTR can only mountabled(attached, connected) on information

processing when information processing apparatus enabled the bus to the devices.

[0014] Thus, the prior art teaches the invention as claimed and the amended claims do

not distinguish over the prior art as applied.

Conclusion

4.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5.   *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should*

be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (571)272-3635 or via e-mail addressed to

[kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9.00AM- 6:00PM. If attempts to

reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be

reached at (571)272-3632 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.Rinehart@uspto.gov].

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are

(703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general

nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist

whose telephone number is (571)272-2100.

Kim Huynh

June 16, 2005

REHANA PERVEEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
6/21/05